



# Sanitary Sewer FAQs

(Frequently Asked Questions)

**Sanitary sewers are dedicated lines laid underground to convey sewage from homes and businesses throughout an area. Manholes allow access for inspection and cleaning.**



**This manhole is full of items improperly flushed.**

- **What's the difference between a sanitary and a storm sewer?** Sanitary sewers collect water from toilets, sinks, showers, tubs etc and transport it to the Water Reclamation Facility where it is treated to remove pollutants prior to being discharged to a waterway. Storm water is water collected from streets, roofs, and parking lots, and it is simply routed to the local streams untreated.
- **What are some of the things that can cause damage in the sanitary sewer system?** Grease, baby wipes, tampon applicators and q-tips are things that cause the most damage. To see a more specific list of things that are prohibited, check out the ordinance on the village website.
- **What can happen if something wrong is flushed down my drain?** Things made of plastic, metal and heavy fiber may clog your house's line, your neighbor's line, or perhaps the line for the entire street. Things like solvents and pills can end up in Walnut Creek where they may cause damage to the wildlife there.
- **What can I do to help?** Pour grease into a receptacle like a coffee can or butter bowl, and dispose of it with your trash. Take paints and other solvents to local recycling centers. Put baby wipes, Q-Tips etc. in the trash bin.
- **What happens if I fail to comply?** Failure to comply may result in fines being levied, discontinuation of water service to the house or business, or a combination of both.
- **Where can I go for additional information on how to maintain my sanitary sewer service?** More in-depth information on various sewer issues may be found at our website— <http://www.canalwinchesterohio.gov/>